# SITE FILE COPY

Form 10-300 (Dec. 1968) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

STATE:	
Missouri	
COUNTY:	
Jackson	
FOR NPS USE O	NLY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

	(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)	)	ENTRY NUMB	BER DATE
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	Vaile Park			
	Col Harris M Mails Mangion			
2	Col. Harvey M. Vaile Mansion			
<u> </u>	STREET AND NUMBER:			
	1500 North Liberty Street			
	CITY OR TOWN:			
	Independence			
	STATE CODE CO	OUNTY:		CODE
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	District   Building   Public   Public Acquisition		Unoccupied	Restricted
	Both Being Consider		Preservation work	Unrestricted [
	Object .		in progress 🔲	
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	PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
	Agricultural Government Park	Tra	nsportation 🗌 🤇	Comments [
	Commercial Industrial Private Residence	∑ Oth	er (Specify) 🔲 _	- <del></del>
	Educational Military Religious			
	Entertainment Museum Scientific			
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43	OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNERS NAME:			
4.3	OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNERS NAME:		North Liberty	Street)
4.	OWNER OF PROPERTY		North Linerty	Street)
4.	OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNERS NAME:  Mrs. J. Roger DeWitt (owner of property street and number:	at 1500	North Liberty	Street)
4	OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNERS NAME:		North Liherty	CODE
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	OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNERS NAME:  Mrs. J. Roger DeWitt (owner of property street AND NUMBER:  Lil2 North Spring Street  City or town:  Independence	at 1500		CODE
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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

**INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM** 

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Missouri	
COUNTY	
Jackson_	
FOR NPS USE	DNLY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all	entries)	
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#### COL. HARVEY M. VAILE MANSION

2. 1518 North Osage Street

Independence

Missouri 64050

Code: 24

Jackson

Code: 095

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Missouri
county
Jackson
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER DA

STATE

(Continuation Sheet)

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#### COL. HARVEY M. VAILE MANSION

4. Orion R. Bell, Jr. (owner of property at 1518 North Osage Street)

18408 Hanthorn Drive

Independence

Missouri 64057

Code: 24

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Number all entries)

#### COL. HARVEY M. VAILE MANSION

6. Missouri State Historical Survey (state)

1968

Missouri State Park Board

P.O. Box 176

120h Jefferson Building

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Code: 24

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Vaile Park, the Col. Harvey M. Vaile Mansion in Independence, Missouri is an unusually large residential structure designed in the Victorian French Renaissance revival style, constructed of dark red brick and partially trimmed in white limestone. The house has full basement, two full stories and a third story under a mansard roof. A four story tower is at the center of the facade (east side). The house was designed by Kansas City architect Asa Cross in the early 1870!s.

The present approximate 5.6 acres of land on which the house is located has been reduced from 630 original acres. Outbuildings (see map) located in yard surrounding the house included:

- 1) Combination horse barn and carriage house to the west of the house. This building is intact and its design is in harmony with that of the large house. It is presently separated from the house by a public roadway, North Osage Street, and is in separate ownership.
  2) A wine cellar southwest of the house, at the corner of North Osage Street and Kendall Avenue, reportedly located in a section of the basement of the old Perry Brock grist mill. (Kansas City Journal-Post, March 20, 1927, p. 9c.) The site is currently identifiable by an expanse of concrete which appears to be a cap over the old cellar.
- 3) The site of a greenhouse formerly located north of the house, is presently occupied by a wooden pergola.

The mansion is complex in plan, detail and finish. It exemplifies the High Victorian taste for leaving no surface areas untouched.

The basic four walls do not rise in four planes but have two story bays terminating in dormers at the third story level pulled out from their surfaces. Porches, stairways, a broadly overhanging bracketed cornice and pent roofs over some windows contribute to the physical and visual disruption of plain wall surfaces.

The roof profile of the house is similarly complex as a result of the inclusion of the facade (east wall) tower with its double mansard roof, heavy bracketed cornices, belfry at the southwest corner of the house, finials, ornamental iron cresting, and chimneys with bulging upper termini.

Hand pressed brick for the walls was purchased from contractor William Randall for \$50,000. (Kansas City Journal-Post, March 20, 1927, p. 9c.)

A limestone belt course caps the foundation walls.

Windows throughout are framed in wood. Sash are double hung with a single plate of glass in each sash. Windows on the facade (east wall)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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STATE	
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FOR NPS USE (	DNLY
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(Number all entries)

#### COL. HARVEY M. VAILE MANSION

7.

and on the sections of the south and north sidewalls visible from Liberty Street (east of the house) have stone sills and lintels. Elsewhere brick segment arches were used with keys and termini of limestone.

All windows and doors are narrow in proportion to height, a relationship that accentuates the appearance of extreme verticality of the walls.

The roof is of colored slate arranged in diamond pattern, a motif repeated on the roof of the horse barn-carriage house to the west of the main house.

An especially noteworthy feature of the house is the sheer abundance of detailed finish applied to the exterior. This seems to have been done more in the spirit of achieving maximum utilization of each supporting surface than as an exhibition of artistic sensitivity. A high proportion of this finish is composed of pierced wood sheathing, pendants, quarter circle brackets, stick braces and mouldings.

The interior was originally richly finished with watercolor mural work by imported European artists of the owner-builder's choosing. (Kansas City Journal-Post, March 20, 1927, p. 9c.) One of the original nine marble-faced fireplaces cost \$1500. The front door, spiral staircase and room divider panels are walnut. The remainder of the interior woodwork is of painted white pine. (Kansas City Journal-Post, March 20, 1927, p. 9c.)

The ceilings are 14 feet high throughout the house; three chandeliers, originally intended for the White House in Washington D.C. were purchased by Vaile for \$800. (Kansas City Journal-Post, March 20, 1927, p. 9c.)

The house is in structurally sound condition at present. Some exterior tuckpointing is needed. The interior is reportedly in good condition with few changes in the original form and finish. Because of the present use of the building, interior inspection was not permitted.

ERIOD (Check One or )	More as	Appropriate)					
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15th Century		17th Centur	ry 🗀	19th Centur	у 🔀		
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If A	pplicab	le and Known)	ca. 18	371			
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Art	<b>X</b>	Landscape		Sculpture			
Commerce		Architecture		Social/Human-			
Communications		Literature		itarian			
Conservation		Military		Theater			
		Music		Transportation		<del></del>	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Vaile Park, the Col. Harvey M. Vaile mansion, Independence, Missouri, is significant primarily as a superb example of French Renaissance revival style architecture in Missouri. Its design and construction was financed by an owner who desired a magnificent residence as an outward expression of his wealth.

Col. Harvey M. Vaile, original owner and builder, began construction ca. 1871. The mansion was completed in 1881 at a cost greater than \$100,000. (Kansas City Journal-Post, March 20, 1927, p. 9c.) The design of the mansion was inspired by a large house in Normandy, France that Vaile and his wife had visited during a trip to Europe. (The Daily News (Independence), article by Louise Hurlbut, "Dignity of Past Lives on in Stately Vaile Mansion," Feb. 13, 1952, pp. 5-6.)

Vaile made a great deal of money in shrewd business ventures, primarily interests in the construction of the Erie Canal. (State Historical Society of Missouri, Historic Sites Files: Jackson County, material from Edward C. Wright, Jr.) He was also part owner and operator of the Old Star Mail Route originating in Independence during the 1860's. He was implicated in the "Star Route Scandals" of 1882 and 1883, and before acquittal in 1883, his trial expenses exceeded \$100,000. (Kansas City Journal-Post, March 20, 1927, p. 9c.)

Vaile made his home the showplace of Jackson County, offering lavish hospitality to notables of the 1880's and 1890's including many U.S. Senators and congressional representatives. After his death in 1895, the estate was contested by nieces and nephews in a suit which lasted five years. (Kansas City Journal-Post, March 20, 1927, p. 9c.)

The mansion has been in use as a sanitarium since 1908.

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9.	MAJOR	BIBLIO	GRAPHICAL RE	FERENCES						
I. BOOKS:  A. Conant, Kenneth J. (ed.). University Prints of Boston:  Modern Architecture, Series GM (International).  Boston, Mass.: The University Prints, 1930.										
	B. The History of Jackson County, Missouri. Kansas City, Missouri Union Historical Company, Birdsall, Williams & Company, 1881.								ouri:	
		C.	Independen	ce, Missour	i: Ir d Publ	ı li	Historic Ja Shing House	ckson Co , 1964.	ounty. Indep	endence
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12.	. STATE	LIAIS	ON OFFICER CE	RTIFICATION		h	All the second s		ER VERIFICATIO	
As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set					ic Law clusion been ires set	1				d in the
	forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:					Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation				
	İ	ational								
							Date			
	Name		Joseph Ja	eger, Jr.	<u></u>		ATTEST:			
į	Title	Dire	ctor Misso	uri State P	ark					
	- 11.10	Board	d, and Misson Officer	ouri State	<u>⇔1'V</u>		Kee	per of The	National Register	
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## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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STATE	
Missouri	
COUNTY	
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FOR NPS USE	ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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(Number all entries)

#### COL. HARVEY M. VAILE MANSION

9.

#### II. NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

- A. The Daily News (Independence), Feb. 13, 1952, pp. 5-6.
  Good, detailed source, cites long-term owner,
  Mrs. Cary May Carrol, later Mrs. Orlando Sprague.
- B. The Independence Examiner, April 13, 1957, pp. 7, 8b.

  Mentions influence of French chateau on design.

Feb. 26, 1962, p. 6. Etched glass of mansion noted.

- C. Kansas City Journal-Post, Mar. 20, 1927, p. 9c.

  Competent, well researched news article on home's history, Col. Vaile's activities.
- D. The Kansas City Times, Nov. 11, 1949, p. 20, cols. 3-5.

  Account of one who visited there as a child.

Mar. 31, 1960, p. 8. Mr. J. Roger DeWitt buys house to prevent razing.

#### III. DOCUMENTARY

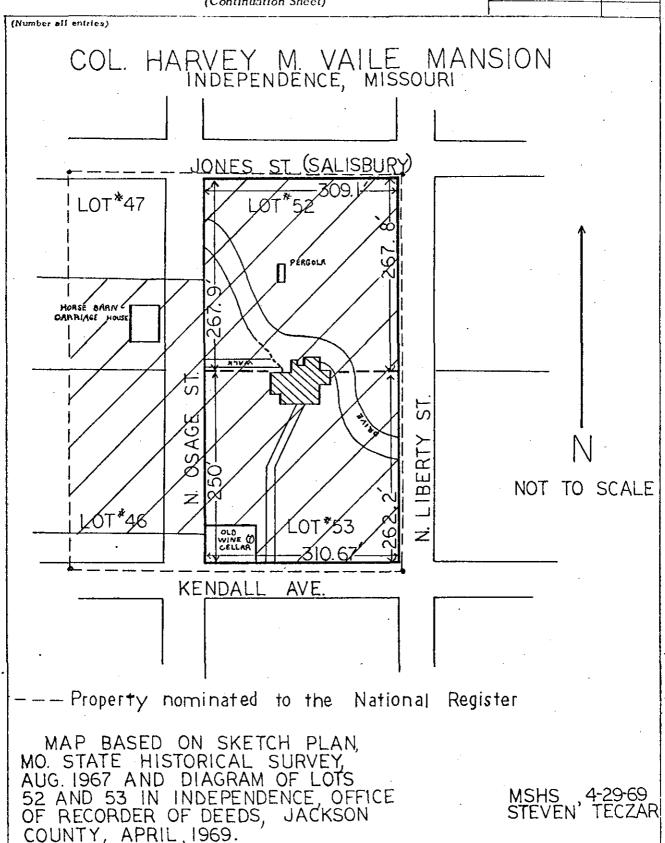
A. State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia,
Missouri, Historic Sites File. Ref. Jackson
County, material from Edward C. Wright, Jr.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

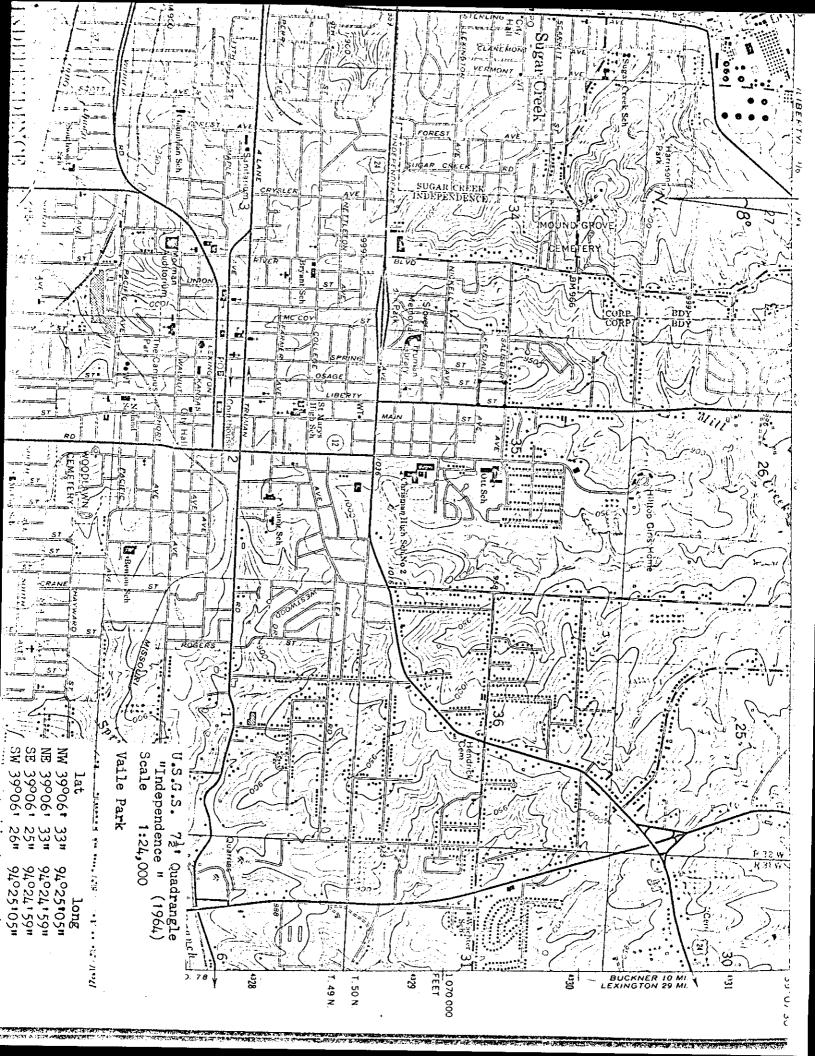
STATE	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE



CODE DATE 8 FOR NPS USE ONLY Board ENTRY NUMBER Missouri Jackson Missouri State Park STATE Jackson CODE COUNTY: NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map) Missouri State Historical Survey, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Vaile Mansion 2 PROPERTY MAP FORM 1500 North Liberty Street site plan 1. Property broundaries where required. Col. Harvey M. Latitude and longitude reference. 61050 Sketch Map of not to scale Independence TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS Vaile Park Missouri STREET AND NUMBER: AND/OR HISTORIC: North arrow. MAP REFERENCE 4. REQUIREMENTS CITY OR TOWN: 2. LOCATION COMMON SOURCE: <sup>1</sup>Form 10-301 (Dec. 1968) 3 5 STATE: SCALE DATE NAME. <u>س</u> 2 E OITOυят S N - 1Ε

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095 DATE FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER Missouri Jackson COUNTY STATE Jackson COUNTY: quadrangle Independence NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CODE Vaile Mansion 7 PROPERTY MAP FORM 1500 North Liberty Street 1. Property broundaries where required. AND/OR HISTORIC: Gol, Harvey M. Latitude and longitude reference. 61.050 731 Independence TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS Vaile Park Missouri 1:21,000USGS STREET AND NUMBER: 2. North arrow. 3. MAP REFERENCE REQUIREMENTS CITY OR TOWN: **EOCATION** COMMON: SOURCE: Form 10-301 (Dec. 1968) STATE SCALE: DATE: I. NAME 2 E E 1 И 5 Т В И С Т І О И 5



COUNTY:

Jackson

LOCATION:

1500 N. Liberty St., Independence, Mo.

OWNER:

ADDRESS:

Mrs. J. Roger DeWitt 412 N. Spring St., Independence, Mo. 64050

DATE APPROVED BY A.C.:

10-26-68

DATE SENT TO JEFF. CITY:

07-01-69

DATE SENT TO D.C.:

08-11-69

DATE OF REC. IN D.C.:

DATE PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER:

08-13-69

10-01-69

DATE AWARDED CERTIFICATE (AND PRESENTOR):

Milton Perry - Advisory Council member

DATE FILE REVIEWED:

112.11

Vaile Park, the Col. Harvey M. Vaile Mansion, Independence, Missouri, is significant primarily as a superb example of French Renaissance Revival style architecture in Missouri. Its design and construction was financed by an owner who desired a magnificent residence as an outward expression of his wealth.

PHOTO CREDIM, Patricia Holmes, State Historical Survey, Missouri State Park Board DATE CODE 995 FOR NPS USE ONLY 65101 frieze paneling, wrought iron roof cresting, and stone window Detail of east end of south sidewall. Note complex, double ENTRY NUMBER Missouri Jackson "U" turn of the bracketed cornice, variance of design in Missouri COUNTY STATE VEGATIVE FILED AT: Missouri State Park Board, P.O. Box 176 1201 Jefferson Building, Jefferson City, Jackson COUNTY (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph) NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Vaile Mansion CODE 24 PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM 1500 North Liberty Street AND/OR HISTORIC: COL, Harvey M. DATE OF PHOTO: AUGUST 16, 1967 64050 DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Independence Vaile Park Missouri lintel. STREET AND NUMBER: 3. PHOTO REFERENCE DENTIFICATION CITY OR TOWN: LOCATION COMMON STATE I. NAME 0 Э N В S Ε 2 E



State Historical Survey, Missouri State Park Bdard DATE CODE 095 FOR NPS USE ONLY 65101 Vaile horse barn-carriage house building ENTRY NUMBER Missouri Jackson Missouri COUNTY STATE 1204 Jefferson Building, Jefferson City. Vaile Park (former horse barn-carriage house, ecative FILED AT: Missouri State Park Board, P.O. Box 176 Jackson COUNTY (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph) NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CODE 21/2 PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM 1518 North Osage Street Patricia Holmes. AND/OR HISTORIC: COL. Harvey M. DATE OF PHOTO: AUGUST 16, 1967 61,050 Independence Missouri TREET AND NUMBER: PHOTO REFERENCE PHOTO CREDITM. IDENTIFICATION CITY OR TOWN LOCATION COMMON: TATE NAME

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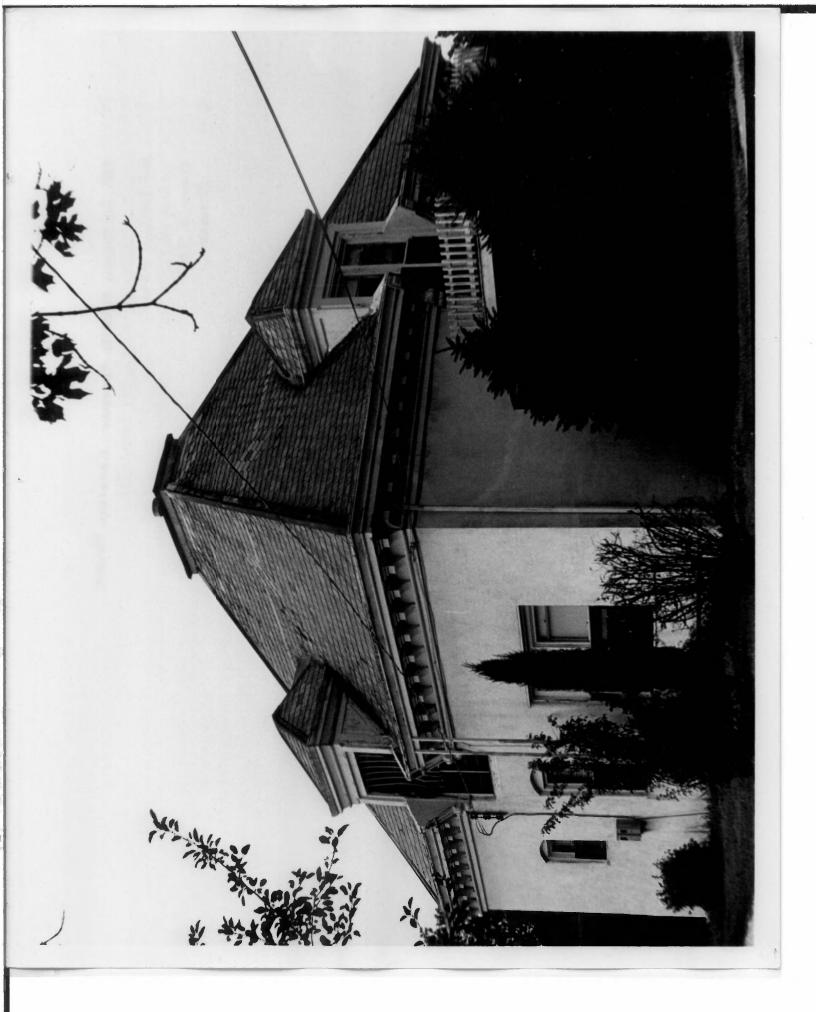
Looking northwest. View of south wall (at left) and east wall (at right).

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Although basically a simple square structure, the horse barn-carriage house ornament is similar to that of the mansion to the east. Note

especially the diamond pattern in the slate roof, and the bracketed

cornice.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

ENTRY NUMBER DATE

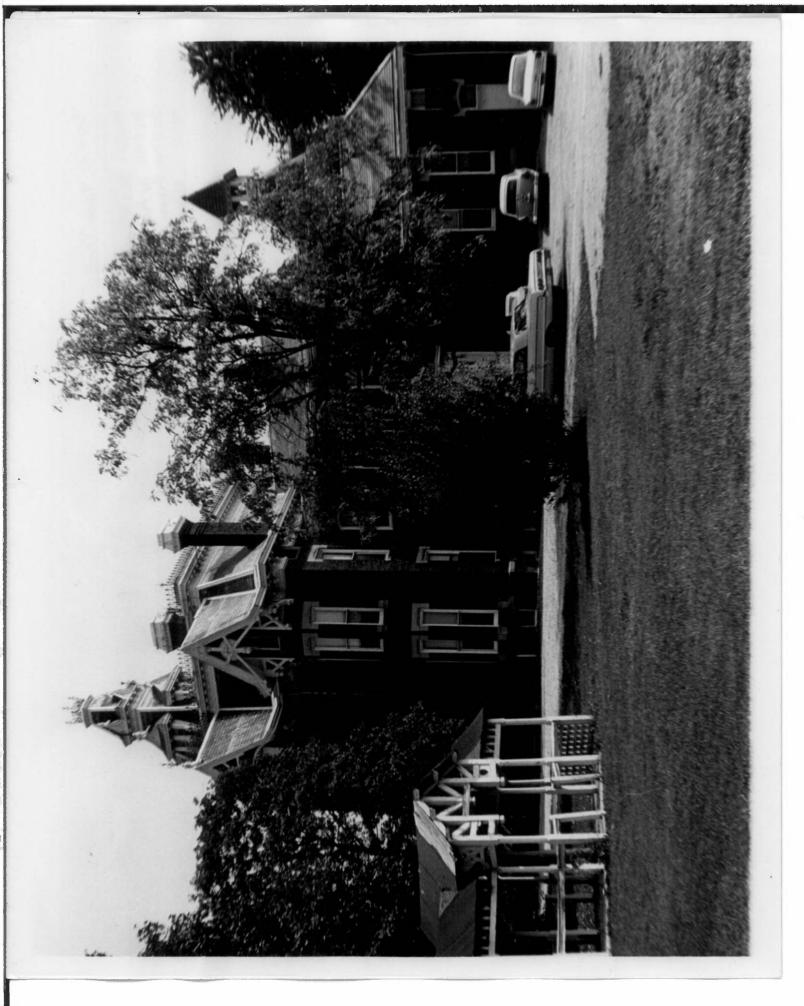
Jackson FOR NPS USE ONLY

Missouri

STATE

COMMON: Vaile Park AND/OR HISTORIC: COL, Harvey M. STREET AND NUMBER: STATE: Missouri 64,050 PHOTO REFERENCE DATE OF PHOTO: AUGUST 16, 1967 NEGATIVE FILED AT: Missouri States					•	v V
AND/OR HISTORIC: COL. HE  OCATION  STREET AND NUMBER:  INDO North  INDEPENDENT  HOTO REFERENCE  PHOTO CREDITM, PATTICLE  DATE OF PHOTO: AUGUST 16 NEGATIVE FILED AT: Misson						
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ATE OF F	EDITM, Patricia Holmes, State Historical Survey, Missouri State Park Board	fistorica	1 Survey.	Missouri	State	Park Bo
EGATIVE	1967					
	FILED AT: Missouri State Park Board, P.O. Box 176	pard, P.0	. Box 176		0 5 7	r
DENTIFICATION	120% Jefferson Building, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101	ng Jeife	rson City.	Missour	07.40	

Looking southeast, view primarily of north sidewall of house. Pergola on former greenhouse site at left.



4.8.0

Park Board DATE CODE FOR NPS USE ONLY 65101 State ENTRY NUMBER Missouri Jackson Looking west. Front (east) door of the house exibiting elaborate carpentry work in the pendants, quarter circle Missouri PHOTO CREDITM, Patricia Molmos, State Mistorical Survey, Missouri Missouri State Park Board, P.O. Box 176 1204 Jefferson Building, Jefferson City, Jackson COUNTY (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph) NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE brackets, mouldings and paneling. Vaile Mansion CODE PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM 1500 North Liberty Street 120% Jefferson AND/OR HISTORIC: COJ., Harvey !. DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. 61,050 Angust 16, Independence Vaile Park Missouri EGATIVE FILED AT: STREET AND NUMBER: PHOTO REFERENCE 4. IDENTIFICATION CITY OR TOWN: LOCATION COMMON I. NAME 2

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SEE

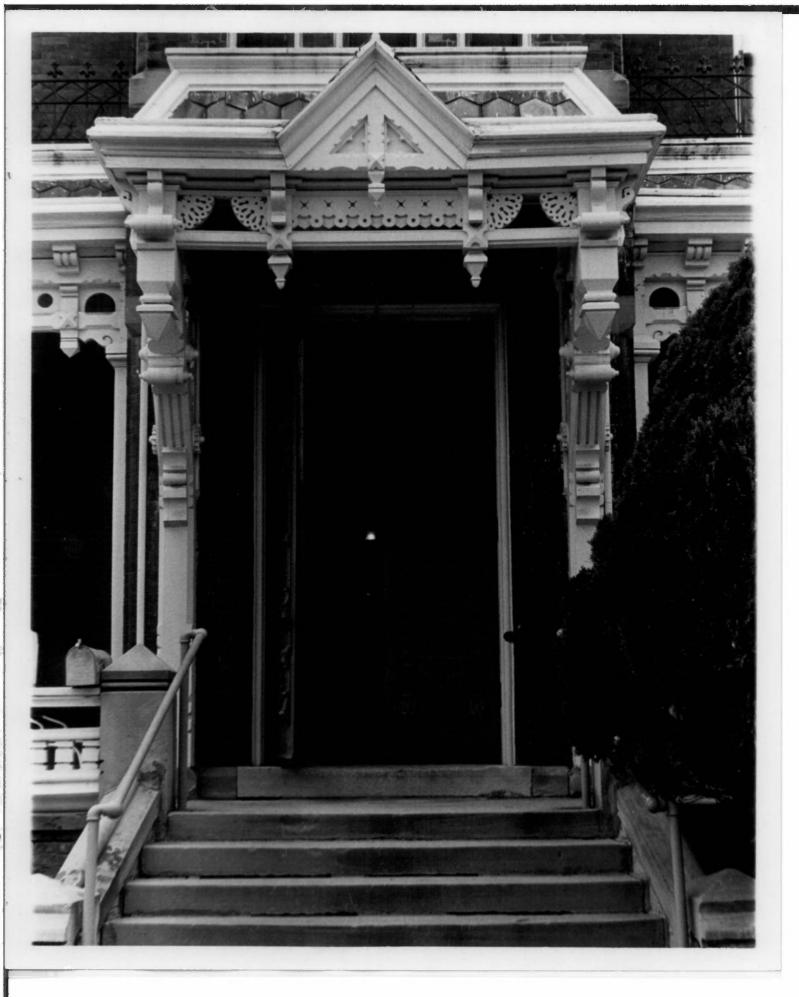


PHOTO CREDIT: M. Patricia Holmes, State Historical Survey, Missouri State Park Board 095 DATE CODE FOR NPS USE ONLY 65101 Looking northwest, view of southeast corner of house. South ENTRY NUMBER Missouri Jackson Missouri COUNTY STATE 120% Jefferson Building, Jefferson City, egative Filed AT: Missouri State Park Board, P.O. Box 176 Jackson COUNTY: (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph) NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Vaile Mansion CODE 27 PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM 1500 North Liberty Street 1967 AND/OR HISTORIC: COL. Harvey M. 64050 DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. August 16. Independence Vaile Park Missouri STREET AND NUMBER: PHOTO REFERENCE DATE OF PHOTO: 4. IDENTIFICATION CITY OR TOWN: LOCATION COMMON: STATE: 1. NAME

INSTRUCTION

sidewall at left and facade (east wall) at right. Four story

SEE

double mansard tower at center of facade.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR 'NATIONAL PARK SERVICE'

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

DATE FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER Missouri Jackson COUNTY STATE

PHOTO CREDITM, Patricia Holmes, State Historical Survey, Missouri State Park Board CODE 960 65101 Missouri Jefferson City. IEGATIVE FILED AT: Missouri State Park Board, P.O. Box 176 Jackson COUNTY Vaile Mansion CODE 212 120 Jefferson Building. 1500 North Liberty Street Col. Harvey M. DATE OF PHOTO: AUGUST 16, 1967 6L050 Independence Vaile Park Missouri PHOTO REFERENCE STREET AND NUMBER: AND/OR HISTORIC: IDENTIFICATION CITY OR TOWN: 2. LOCATION COMMON: TATE 1. NAME

Detail of west end of south sidewall. Note pierced wood

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

sheathing and balusters, brick segment arch window cap

with limestone keystone and terminal stones,

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